

The 3 R's and 3 P's of Autonomous Driving

Adrien Gaidon

**Senior Manager, Machine Learning Research
Toyota Research Institute (TRI), CA, USA**

adriengaidon.com

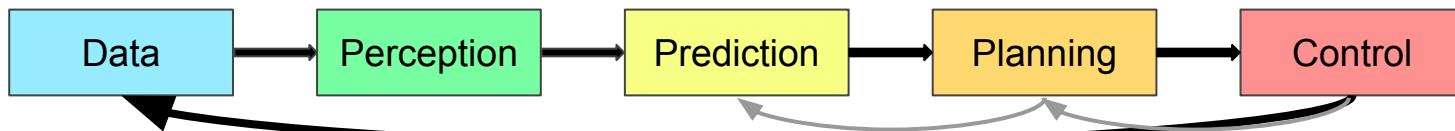
ML-Research team (Jie Li, V. Guizilini,
R. Ambrus, W. Kehl, D. Park, *et al*)
ML-Engineering team (S. Pillai, KH. Lee,
A. Raventos, A. Bhargava, C. Fang, *et al*)
Wolfram Burgard, Guy Rosman,
Stanford, TRI-AD, PFN

A dark gray silhouette of a world map serves as the background for the entire slide. The continents are clearly outlined against a slightly lighter gray background.

1.35 MILLION

ROAD TRAFFIC DEATHS PER YEAR

Robot = Complex Sensorimotor Loop



Conway's Law (paraphrased)

A system's design is isomorphic to the structure of the field.

Leaky Abstraction Law

All non-trivial abstractions, to some degree, are leaky.

Corollary: The Arrows are Performance Bottlenecks.

**3 R & 3 P
of
Autonomy**

**Robustness in Perception
Randomness in Prediction
Risk-awareness in Planning**

**3 R & 3 P
of
Autonomy**

Robustness in Perception
Randomness in Prediction
Risk-awareness in Planning

Robustness in Perception: Data

Assumption: no expectation for a *robot* to *recognize* something *completely new*.

Domain Coverage: World-scale Fleet Learning

Problem: cannot be supervised (too much data)



Robustness in Perception: Data

Self-Supervised Learning: Geometry as Supervision

SuperDepth: Self-Supervised, Super-Resolved Monocular Depth Estimation, S. Pillai, R. Ambrus, A. Gaidon, **ICRA'19**

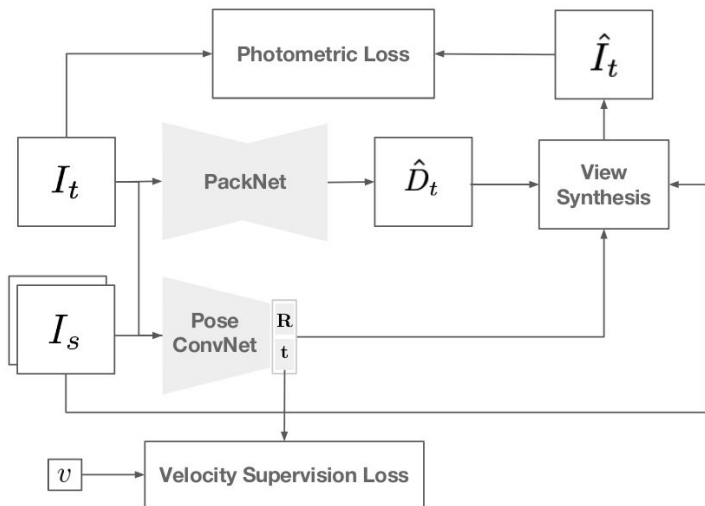
Robust Semi-Supervised Monocular Depth Estimation with Reprojected Distances, V. Guizilini et al, **CoRL'19**

Two Stream Networks for Self-Supervised Ego-Motion Estimation, R. Ambrus et al, **CoRL'19**

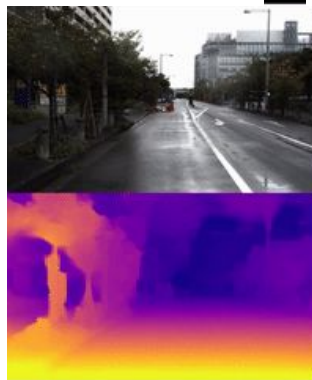
Semantically-Guided Representation Learning for Self-Supervised Monocular Depth, V. Guizilini et al, **ICLR'20**

3D Packing for Self-Supervised Monocular Depth Estimation, V. Guizilini, R. Ambrus et al, **CVPR'20 (oral)**

Neural Ray Surfaces for Self-Supervised Learning of Depth and Ego-motion, I. Vasiljevic, V. Guizilini et al, **3DV (oral)**



$$\hat{I}_t(p_t) = I_s(p_s) \quad p_s \sim K \hat{T}_{t \rightarrow s} \hat{D}_t(p_t) K^{-1} p_t$$



- No LiDAR information is used at training or test time
- Samples shown were not seen during training

<https://github.com/TRI-ML/packnet-sfm>

Robustness in Perception: Data

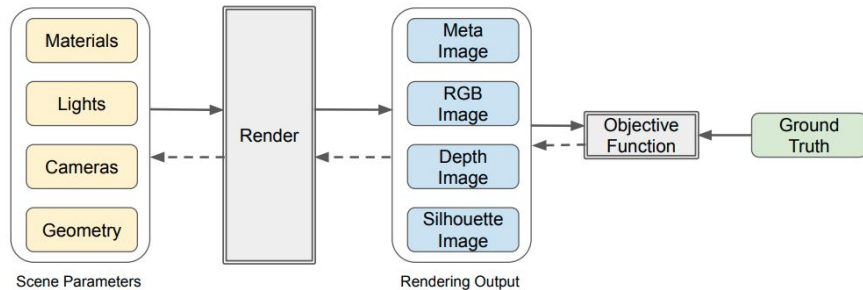
Vision as Inverse Graphics: Auto-Labeling via Differentiable Rendering

ROI-10D: Monocular Lifting of 2D Detection to 6D Pose and Metric Shape, F. Manhardt, W. Kehl, A. Gaidon, **CVPR'19**

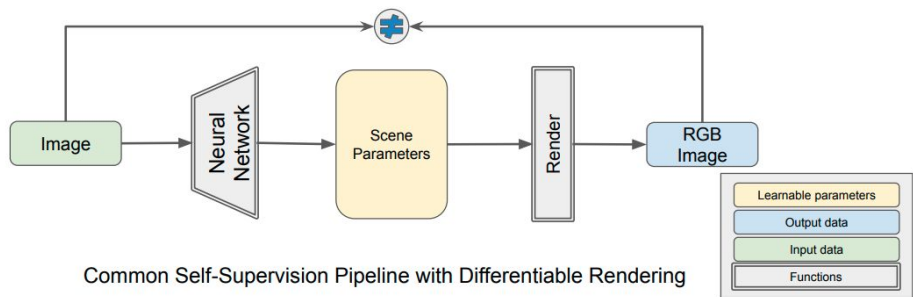
Autolabeling 3D Objects with Differentiable Rendering of SDF Shape Priors, S. Zakharov, W. Kehl et al, **CVPR'20 (oral)**

Self-Supervised Differentiable Rendering for Monocular 3D Object Detection, D. Beker, H. Kato et al, **ECCV'20**

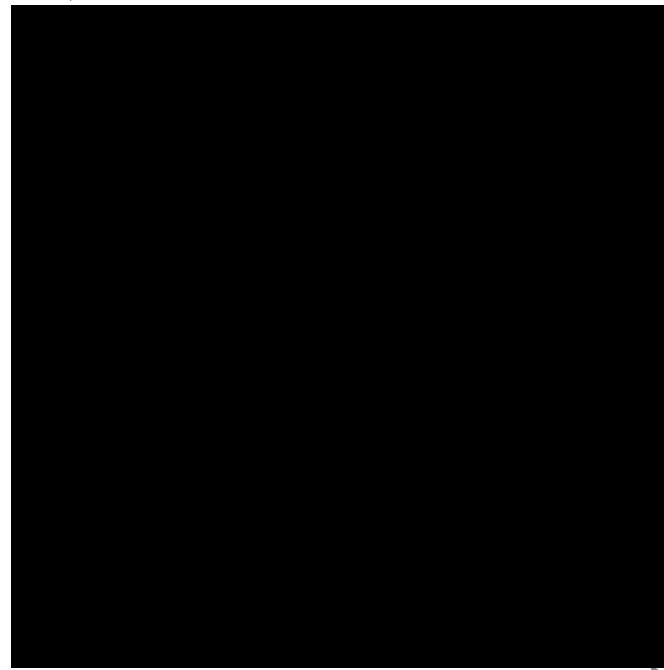
Differentiable Rendering: A Survey, H. Kato, D. Beker et al, **arxiv:2006.12057, 2020**



Optimization using a Differentiable Renderer



Common Self-Supervision Pipeline with Differentiable Rendering

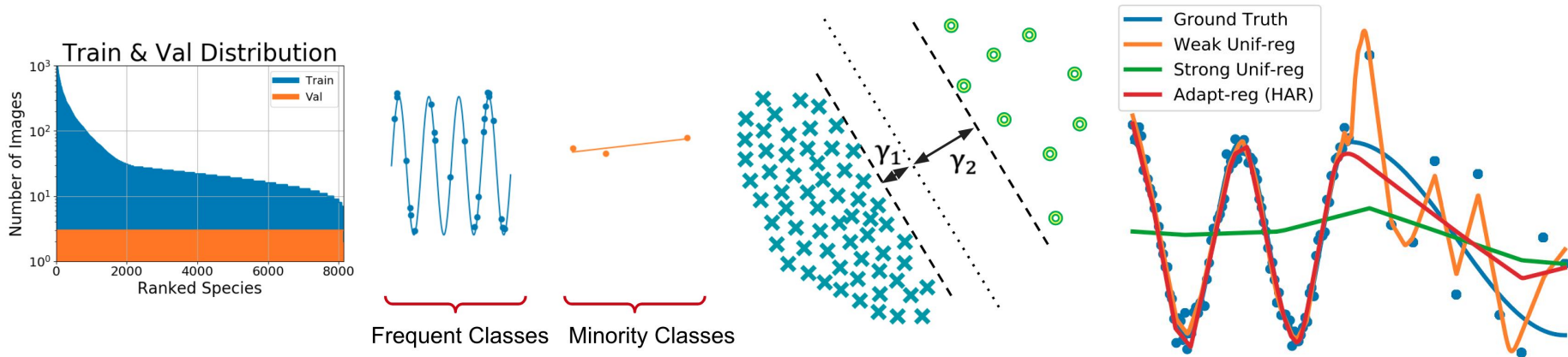


Robustness in Perception: Data

Beware of Bias: Adaptive Regularization of the Long Tail

Learning Imbalanced Datasets with Label-Distribution-Aware Margin Loss, K. Cao et al, NeurIPS'19

Heteroskedastic and Imbalanced Deep Learning with Adaptive Regularization, K. Cao et al, ICML'20 w



Robustness in Perception: Redundancy

Redundancy: sensors lie (Byzantine Generals)

→ Combine Radar + Lidar + Cameras + IMU + ...

Bottleneck: 3D Detection with Cameras (< Lidar)

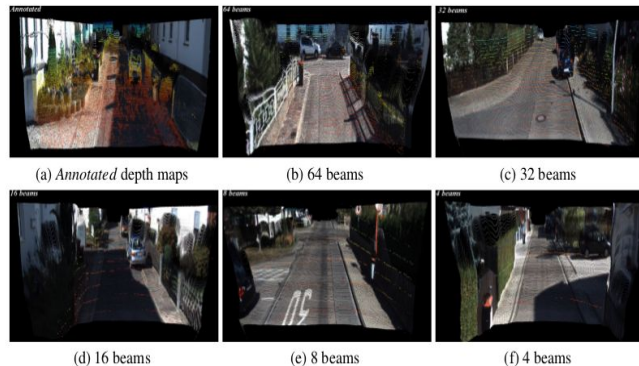
Approach:

- Cross-sensor Auto-Labeling (2D-3D)
- Self/Semi-Supervised "pseudo-lidar"

Robust Semi-Supervised Monocular Depth Estimation with Reprojected Distances, CoRL'19

3D Packing for Self-Supervised Monocular Depth Estimation, CVPR'20 (oral)

Autolabeling 3D Objects with Differentiable Rendering of SDF Shape Priors, CVPR'20 (oral)



Robustness in Perception: Efficiency

Many sensors + complex online fusion

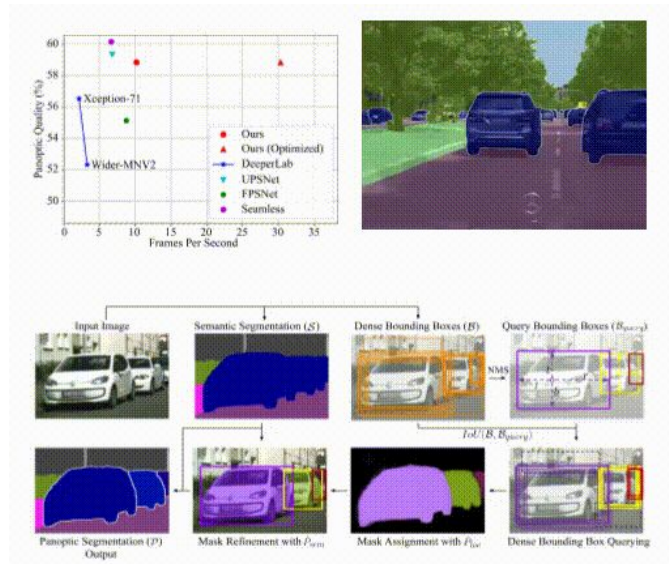
→ Deployment challenges (runtime, energy, stability...)

Efficiency: Core to Robustness!

Approach:

- Hardware optimization
- Sharing Computations

Real-Time Panoptic Segmentation from Dense Detections, R. Hou, J. Li et al,
CVPR'20 (oral)



**3 R & 3 P
of
Autonomy**

Robustness in Perception

Data + Redundancy + Efficiency

Randomness in Prediction

Risk-awareness in Planning

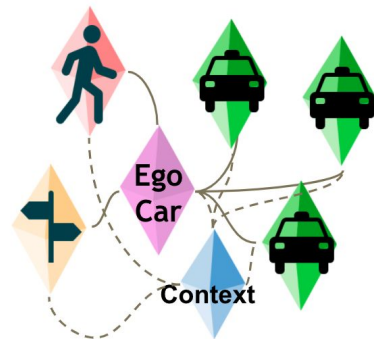
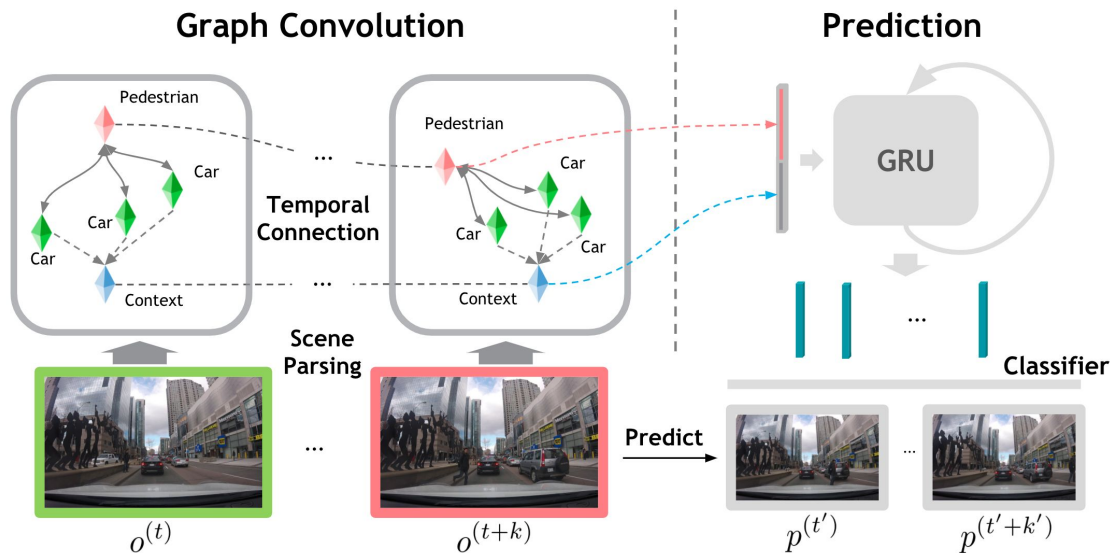
**3 R & 3 P
of
Autonomy**

Robustness in Perception
Randomness in Prediction
Risk-awareness in Planning

Randomness in Prediction: Intent

Human Intent: *latent* yet governs Action

Approach: infer from Interactions and Context



Spatiotemporal Relationship Reasoning for Pedestrian Intent Prediction, RA-L & ICRA'20

STIP: Stanford-TRI Intent Prediction

<http://stip.stanford.edu/>

Randomness in Prediction: Multi-Modality

Contingency: the Future is partly Unpredictable

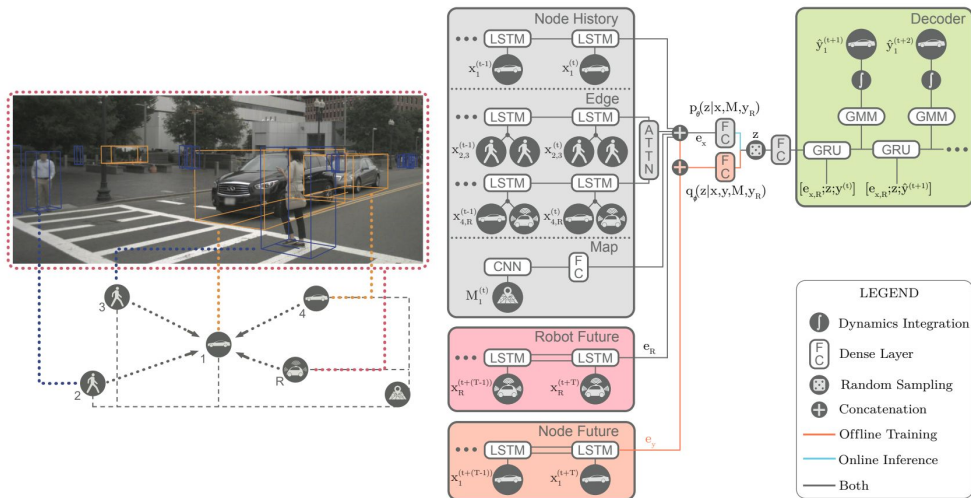
Predict *Distribution* over *Plausible* Futures

"The future is already here – it's just not evenly distributed." -- W. Gibson

PRECOG: PREDiction Conditioned On Goals in Visual Multi-Agent Settings, Nicholas Rhinehart, Rowan McAllister, Kris Kitani, Sergey Levine, ICCV'19

Probabilistic Future Prediction for Video Scene Understanding, Anthony Hu, Fergal Cotter, Nikhil Mohan, Corina Gurau, Alex Kendall, arxiv:2003.06409

Trajectron++: Dynamically-Feasible Trajectory Forecasting With Heterogeneous Data, Tim Salzmann, Boris Ivanovic, Punarjay Chakravarty, Marco Pavone, ECCV'20



Randomness in Prediction: Multi-Modality

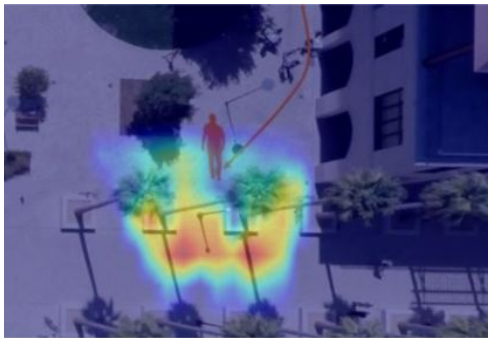
Multi-modality + Intent: use Human Decision-Making Process

It Is Not the Journey but the Destination: Endpoint Conditioned Trajectory Prediction,
K. Mangalam, H. Girase, S. Agarwal, K-H. Lee, E. Adeli, J. Malik, A. Gaidon, **ECCV 2020 (oral)**

Learn distribution of plausible destinations

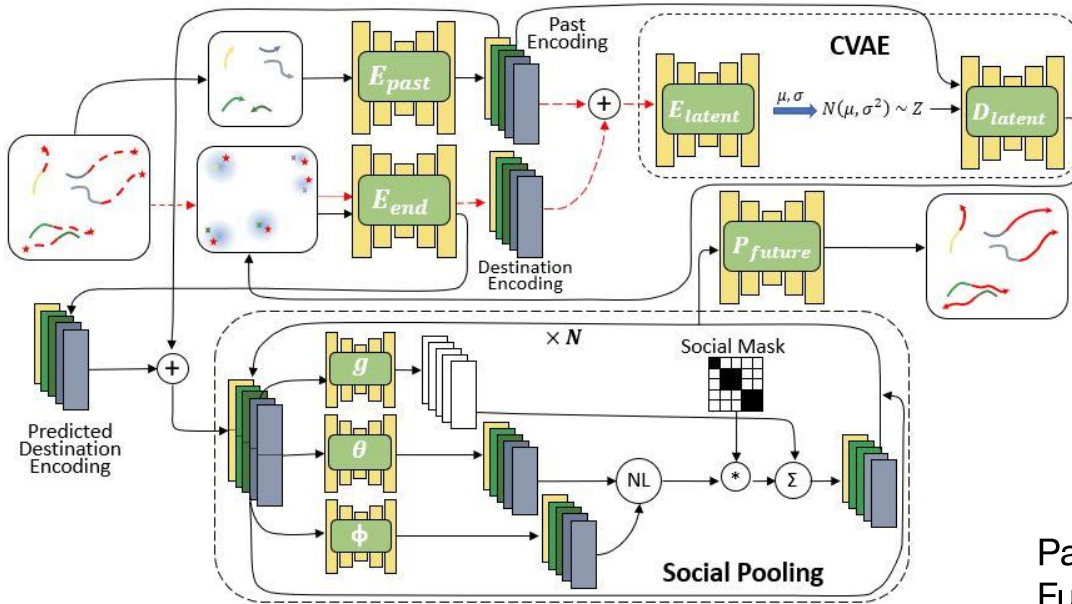
Condition trajectory forecasting on sampled endpoints

Plan following social norms



Randomness in Prediction: Multi-Modality

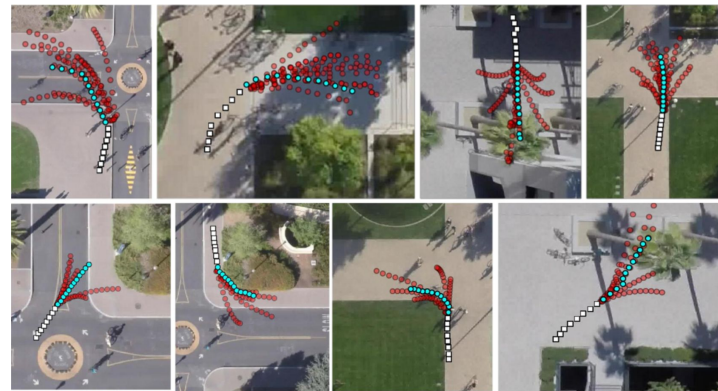
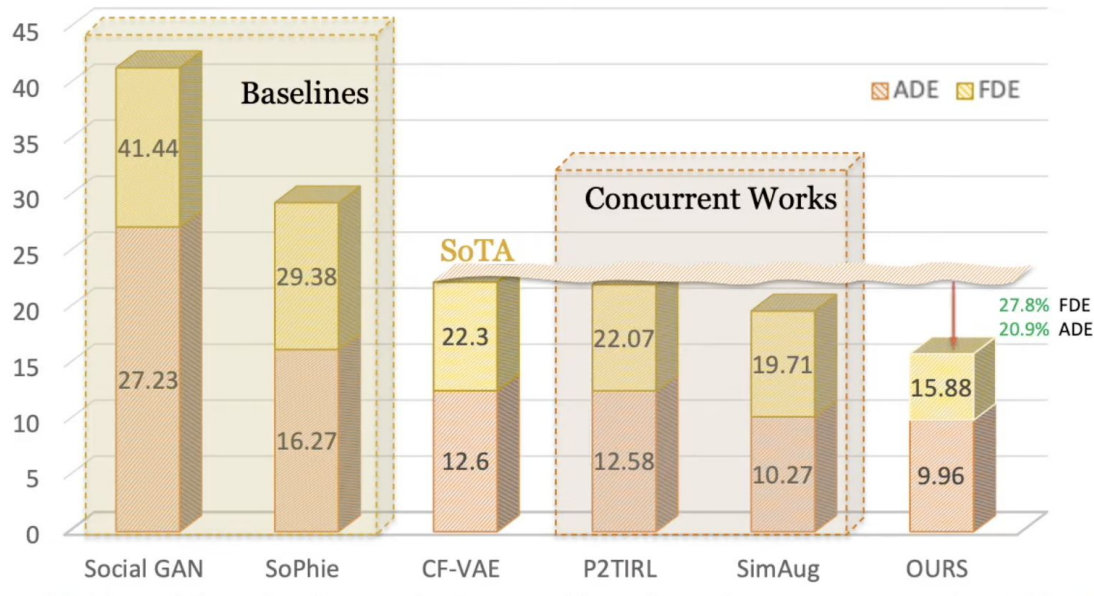
Predicted-Endpoint Conditioned Network (PECNet) Architecture



Past: 8 frames (3.2s)
Future: 12 frames (4.8s)

Randomness in Prediction: Multi-Modality

PECNet improves SOTA on **SDD** & UTH/ECY by **20-50%**



Randomness in Prediction: Uncertainty

Probabilistic Robotics: Every State is a Distribution!

Modular System: Uncertainty Propagates Throughout

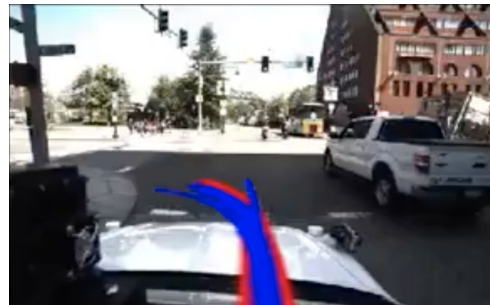
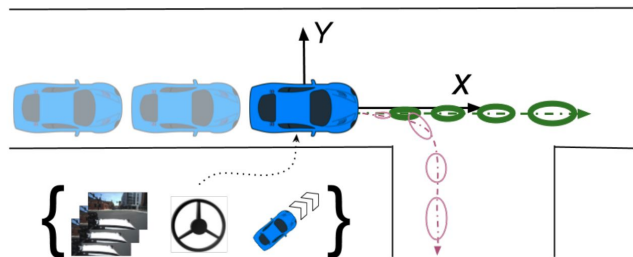
Uncertainty-Aware Driver Trajectory Prediction at Urban Intersections,
X Huang, S McGill, B C. Williams, L Fletcher, G Rosman, ICRA'19

Probabilistic 3D Multi-Object Tracking for Autonomous Driving, H Chiu,
A Prioletti, J Li, J Bohg, arxiv:2001.05673 (NuScenes winner)

A General Framework for Uncertainty Estimation in Deep Learning,
A Loquercio, M Segù, D Scaramuzza, RA-L & ICRA'20

Uncertainty Estimation Using a Single Deep Deterministic Neural Network,
J van Amersfoort, L Smith, YW Teh, Y Gal, arxiv:2003.02037

Can Autonomous Vehicles Identify, Recover From, and Adapt to Distribution Shifts? A Filos, P Tigas, R McAllister, N Rhinehart, S Levine, Y Gal, ICML'20



Randomness in Prediction: Uncertainty

Integrating Prediction in Planning & Control

Risk-Sensitive Sequential Action Control with Multi-Modal Human Trajectory Forecasting for Safe Crowd-Robot Interaction, H. Nishimura, B. Ivanovic, A. Gaidon, M. Pavone, M. Schwager, **IROS'20**

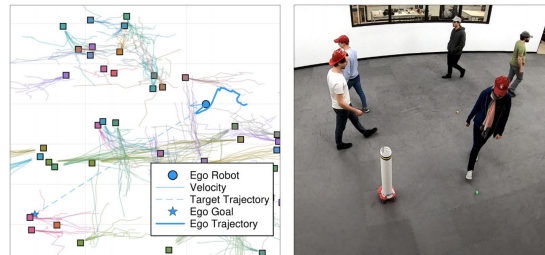


Fig. 1: The proposed RSSAC-Trajnetron++ framework is effective for safe robot navigation in a social environment densely populated with humans. (Left) A simulation environment with real human trajectories from the UCY/UNIV scene [8], overlaid with predictions sampled from Trajnetron++. (Right) A risk-sensitive robot safely navigating itself alongside 5 humans.

MATS: An Interpretable Trajectory Forecasting Representation for Planning and Control, B. Ivanovic, A. Elhafs, G. Rosman, A. Gaidon, M. Pavone,

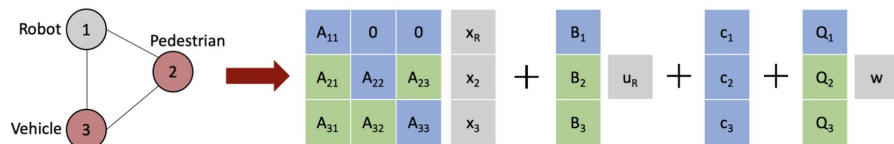


Figure 1: Our model represents edges in a spatiotemporal graph as blocks of dynamical system matrices. Blocks that are fully determined by dynamics (e.g., A 's diagonal and c) or solely involve the ego-robot (e.g., the first block of B) are not learned (blue). All other blocks model agent-agent interactions or uncertainty, and are learned (green). Note that off-diagonal blocks in the ego-robot's row in A are zero, encoding the fact that the ego-robot is only controlled by its actions, u_R .

**3 R & 3 P
of
Autonomy**

Robustness in Perception

Randomness in Prediction

Intent + Multi-modality + Uncertainty

Risk-awareness in Planning

**3 R & 3 P
of
Autonomy**

Robustness in Perception
Randomness in Prediction
Risk-awareness in Planning

Risk-awareness in Planning: Imitation

Demonstrations (good or bad): *trillions* of km/year!

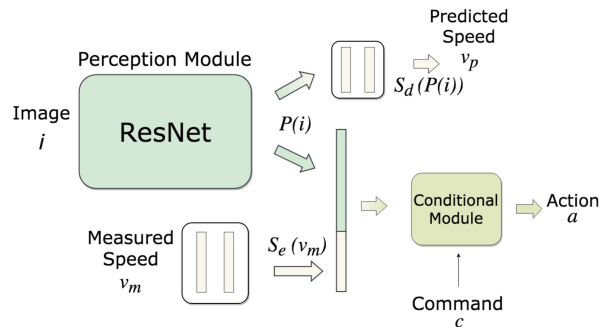
Imitation Learning: simple, scalable, end-to-end

Exploring the Limitations of Behavior Cloning for Autonomous Driving,

F. Codevilla, E. Santana, AM. Lopez, A. Gaidon, ICCV'19 (oral)

Bigger models, pretraining, more data helps... but

Dataset Biases & Variance issues



	Task	Variance
CILRS	Empty	23%
	Regular	26%
	Dense	42%
CILRS (ImageNet)	Empty	4%
	Regular	12%
	Dense	38%

Risk-awareness in Planning: Imitation

Modularity thanks to Computer Vision

(Does computer vision matter for action? B Zhou, P Krähenbühl, V Koltun, Science Robotics 2019)

But Safe Modular System → False Positives

Learn to plan under perception/prediction uncertainty

Driving Through Ghosts: Behavioral Cloning with False Positives,

A. Bühler, A. Gaidon, A. Cramariuc, R. Ambrus, G. Rosman, W. Burgard, IROS'20 (to appear)

Risk-awareness in Planning: Imitation

Modularity thanks to Computer Vision

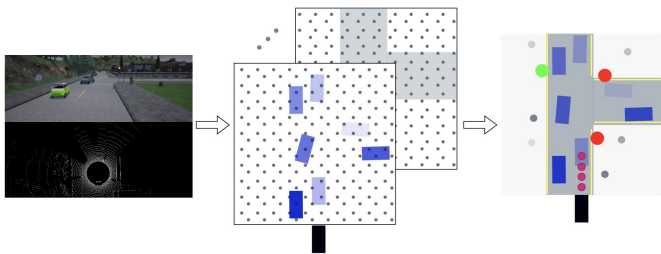
(Does computer vision matter for action? B Zhou, P Krähenbühl, V Koltun, Science Robotics 2019)

But Safe Modular System → False Positives

Learn to plan under perception/prediction uncertainty

Driving Through Ghosts: Behavioral Cloning with False Positives,

A. Bühler, A. Gaidon, A. Cramariuc, R. Ambrus, G. Rosman, W. Burgard, IROS'20 (to appear)



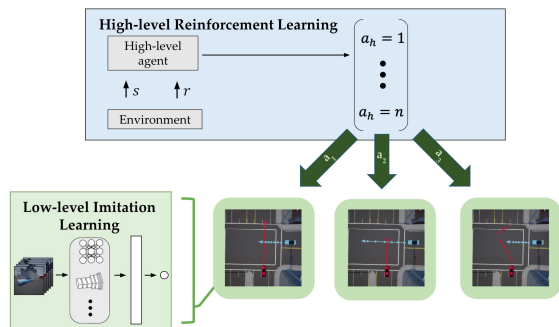
Risk-awareness in Planning: Near-Accidents

Imitation in Near-Accidents? Phase Transitions

Reinforcement Learning based Control of Imitative Policies for Near-Accident Driving,

Z. Cao, E. Biyik, W. Z. Wang, A. Raventos, A. Gaidon, G. Rosman, D. Sadigh, RSS'20

RL to switch between basic IL policies



Risk-awareness in Planning: Near-Accidents

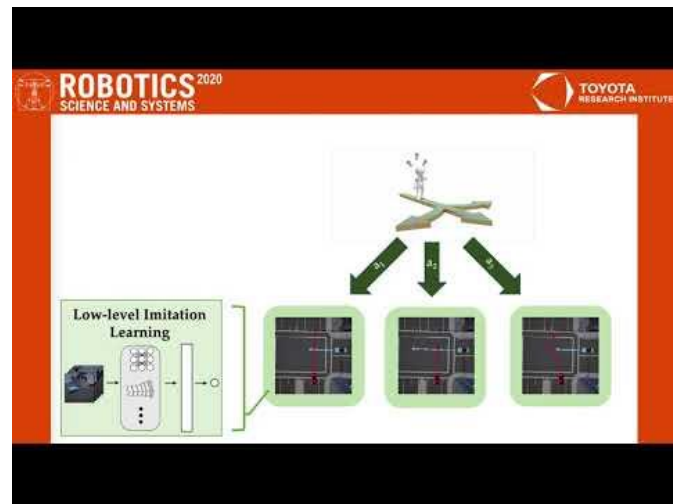
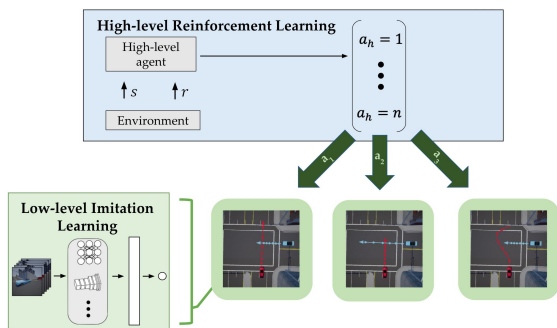
Imitation in Near-Accidents? Phase Transitions

Reinforcement Learning based Control of Imitative Policies for Near-Accident Driving,

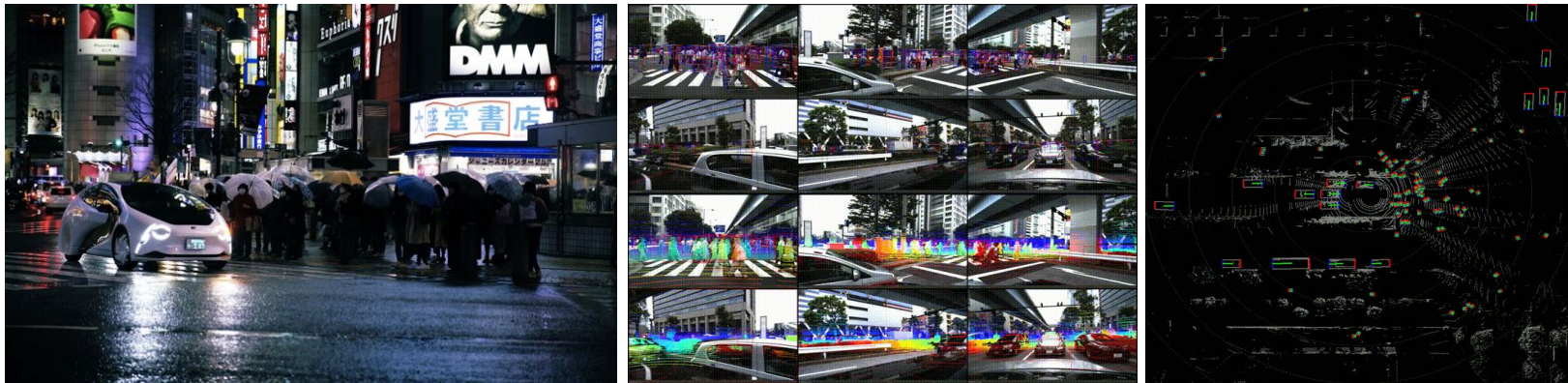
Z. Cao, E. Biyik, W. Z. Wang, A. Raventos, A. Gaidon, G. Rosman, D. Sadigh, RSS'20

RL to switch between basic IL policies

Less collisions + human-like



Risk-awareness in Planning: Safety



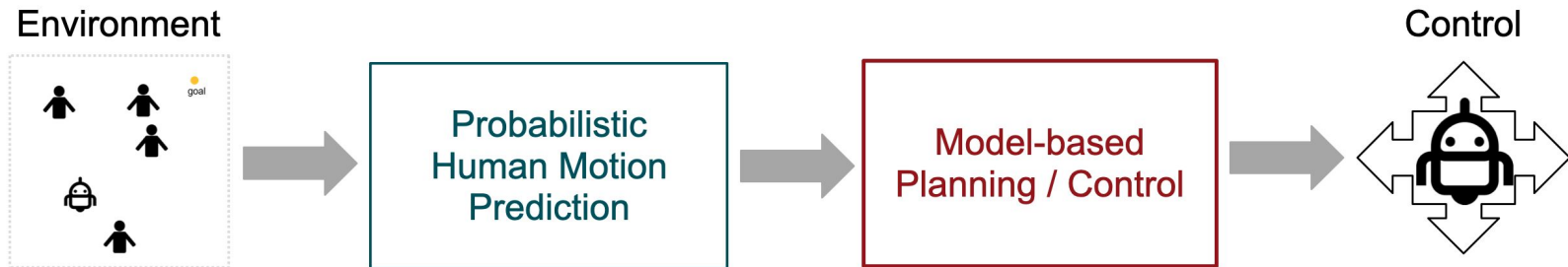
Perception / Prediction: always stochastic

Basis for *Safety-critical* Decisions in *Real-time*?


Safe Autonomy requires *Risk-Awareness*

Risk-awareness in Planning: Safety

Risk-Sensitive Sequential Action Control with *Multi-Modal Human Trajectory Forecasting* for *Safe Crowd-Robot Interaction*, H. Nishimura, B. Ivanovic, A. Gaidon, M. Pavone, M. Schwager, **IROS'20**



1 i N



$$p_{k+1}^i = p_k^i + y_k^i \quad \{y_{1:T}^{1:N}\} \sim \mathcal{D}$$

- **Discrete-Time**
- **Stochastic**
- **Arbitrary Distribution**


Entropic Risk

$$R_{\mathcal{D},\sigma}(J) \triangleq \frac{1}{\sigma} \log \left(\mathbb{E}_{\mathcal{D}}[e^{\sigma J}] \right)$$

$$R_{\mathcal{D},\sigma}(J) \approx \mathbb{E}_{\mathcal{D}}[J] + \frac{\sigma}{2} \text{Var}_{\mathcal{D}}(J)$$

Risk-neutral

Risk-sensitive

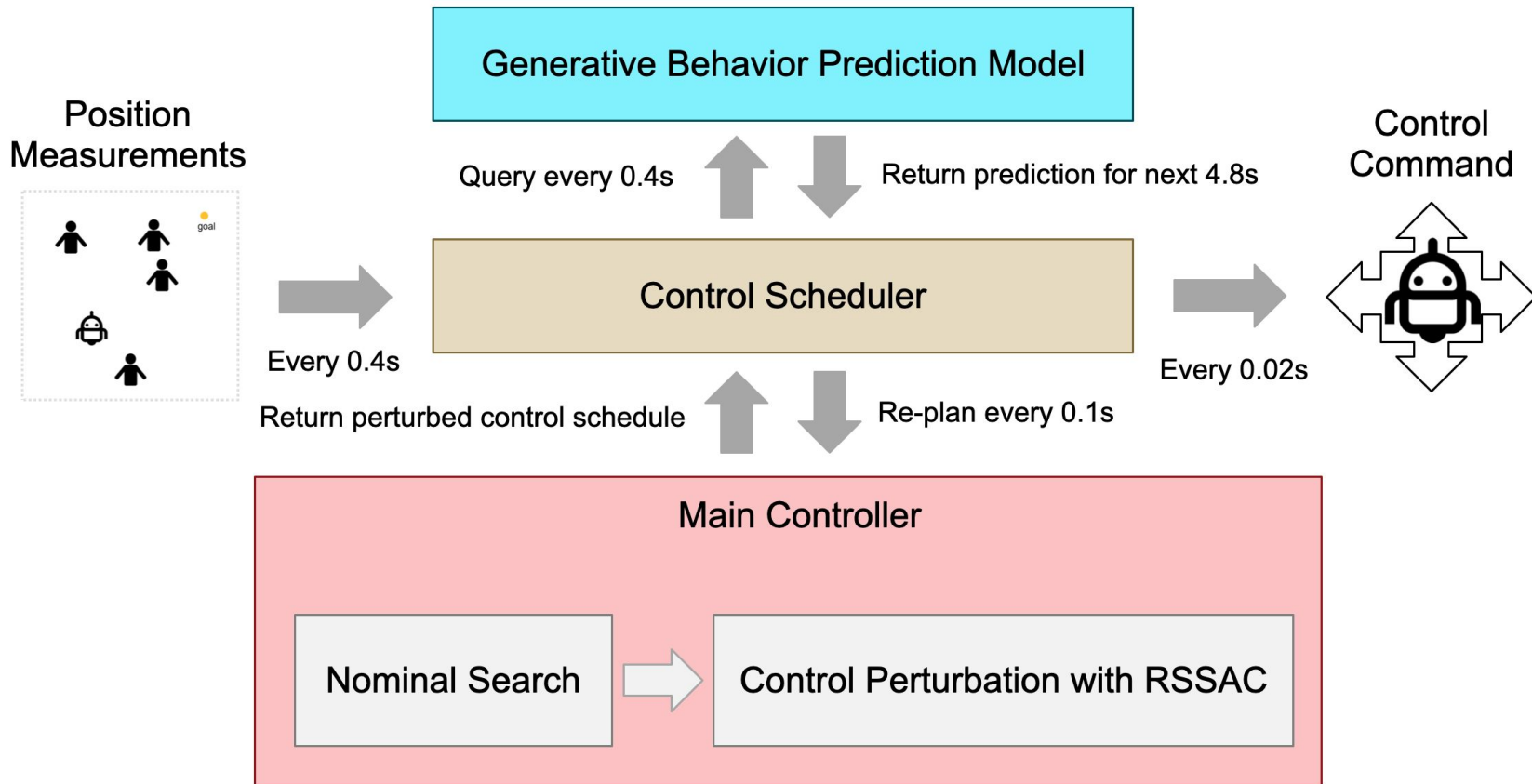

$$\sigma = 0 \qquad \qquad \qquad \sigma > 0$$



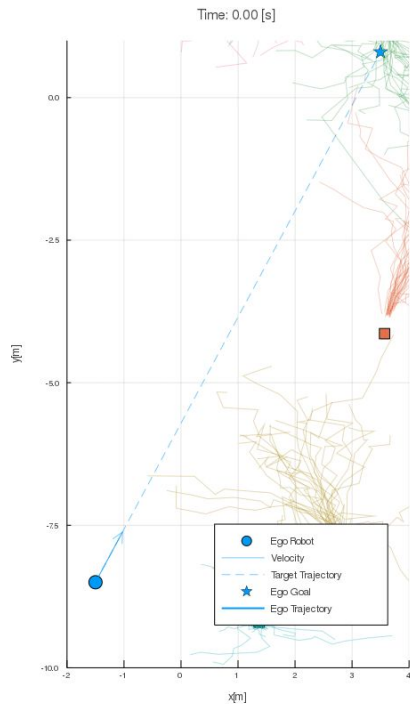
$$\dot{x}(t) = f(x(t)) + H(x(t))u(t)$$

- **Continuous-Time**
- **Deterministic**
- **Control-Affine**

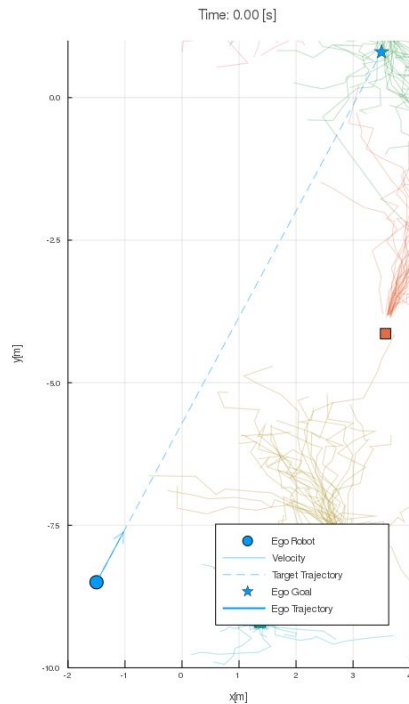
Risk-awareness in Planning: Safety



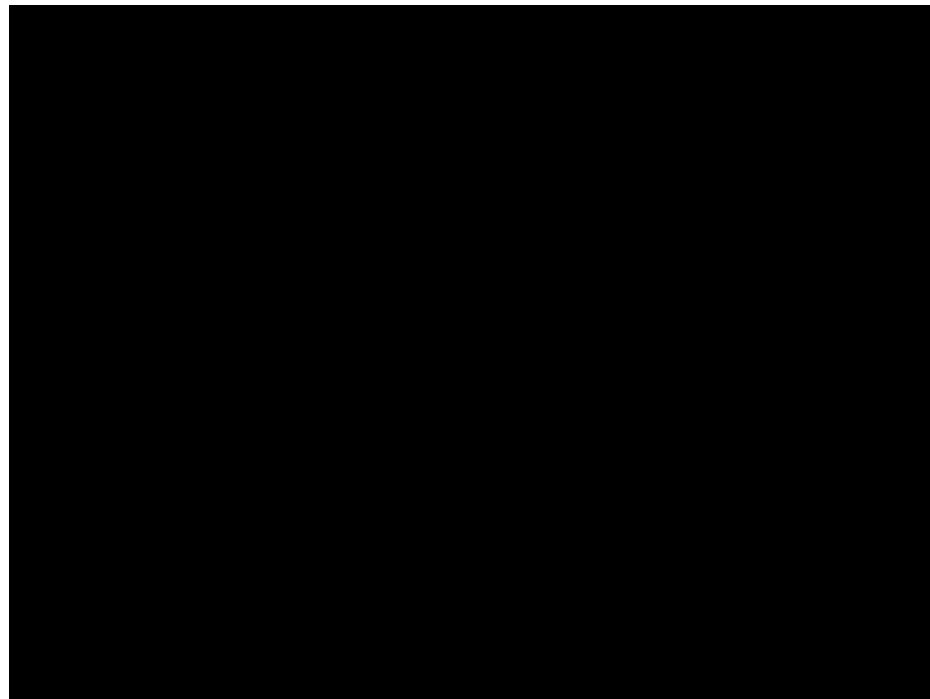
Risk-awareness in Planning: Safety



$\sigma = 0.0$ (Risk-Neutral)



$\sigma = 1.0$ (Risk-Sensitive)



Game-Theoretic Planning for Risk-Aware Interactive Agents, M. Wang, N. Mehr, A. Gaidon, M. Schwager IROS'20

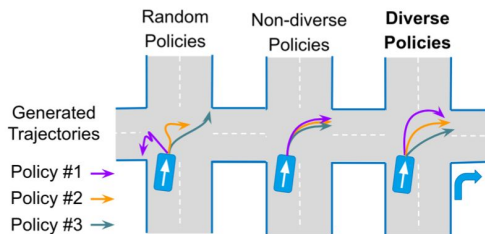
Risk-awareness in Planning: Causality

Decision-making: beyond pure data → Causal Inference

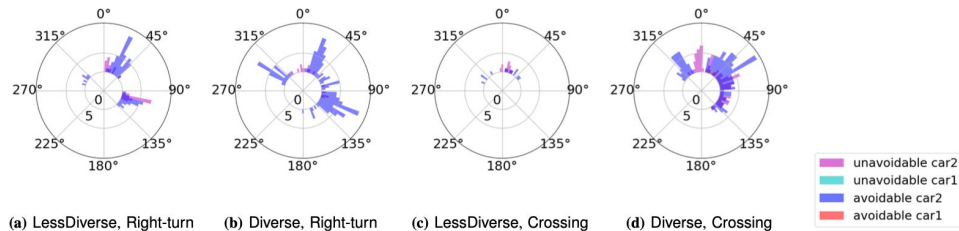
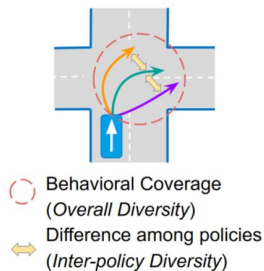
Counterfactuals in sim: find planner bugs and fixes

Behaviorally Diverse Traffic Simulation via Reinforcement Learning, S. Maruyama et al, **IROS'20**

Discovering Avoidable Planner Failures of Autonomous Vehicles using Counterfactual Analysis in Behaviorally Diverse Simulation, D. Nishiyama et al, **ITSC'20**



Diversity	High	Low	High
Driving Skills	Low	High	High

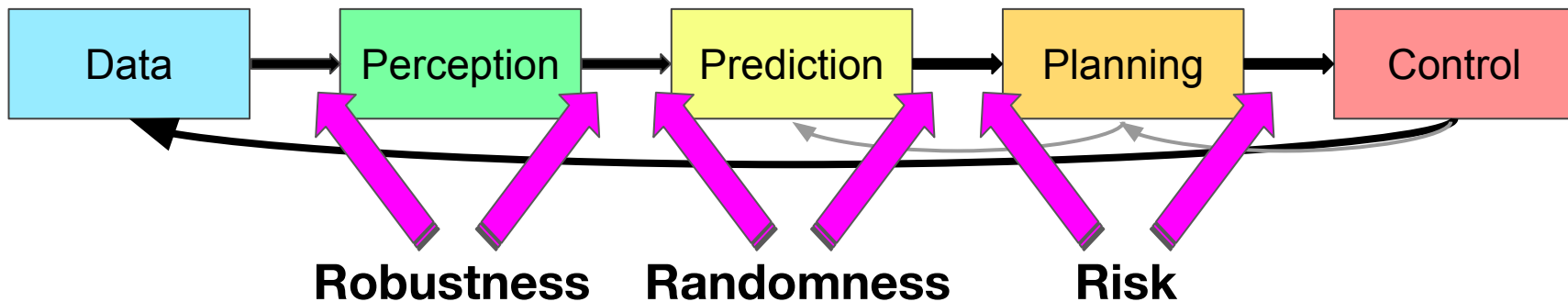


**3 R & 3 P
of
Autonomy**

Robustness in Perception
Randomness in Prediction
Risk-awareness in Planning

Imitation + Safety + Causality

Robot = Complex Sensorimotor Loop



Law of Arrows: In a modular sensorimotor system, the performance bottlenecks are at the *interface* between modules.

Work on the Arrows!

Robust Perception: Data + Redundancy + Efficiency

Learning Imbalanced Datasets with Label-Distribution-Aware Margin Loss, NeurIPS'19
SuperDepth: Self-Supervised, Super-Resolved Monocular Depth Estimation, ICRA'19
Robust Semi-Supervised Monocular Depth Estimation with Reprojected Distances, CoRL'19
Two Stream Networks for Self-Supervised Ego-Motion Estimation, CoRL'19
Semantically-Guided Representation Learning for Self-Supervised Monocular Depth, ICLR'20
3D Packing for Self-Supervised Monocular Depth Estimation, CVPR'20 (oral)
Real-Time Panoptic Segmentation from Dense Detections, CVPR'20 (oral)
Autolabeling 3D Objects with Differentiable Rendering of SDF Shape Priors, CVPR'20 (oral)
Self-Supervised Differentiable Rendering for Monocular 3D Object Detection, ECCV'20
PillarFlow: End-to-end Birds-eye-view Flow Estimation for Autonomous Driving, IROS'20
Neural Ray Surfaces for Self-Supervised Learning of Depth and Ego-motion, 3DV (oral)

Random Prediction: Intent + Multi-modality + Uncertainty

Spatiotemporal Relationship Reasoning for Pedestrian Intent Prediction, RA-L & ICRA'20
It Is Not the Journey but the Destination: Endpoint Conditioned Trajectory Prediction, ECCV'20 (oral)
MATS: An Interpretable Trajectory Forecasting Representation for Planning and Control, arxiv:2009.07517

Risk-aware Planning: Imitation + Safety + Causality

Exploring the Limitations of Behavior Cloning for Autonomous Driving, ICCV'19 (oral)
Reinforcement Learning based Control of Imitative Policies for Near-Accident Driving, RSS'20
Driving Through Ghosts: Behavioral Cloning with False Positives, IROS'20
Risk-Sensitive Sequential Action Control with Multi-Modal Human Trajectory Forecasting [...], IROS'20
Game-Theoretic Planning for Risk-Aware Interactive Agents, IROS'20
Behaviorally Diverse Traffic Simulation via Reinforcement Learning, IROS'20
Discovering Avoidable Planner Failures [...] in Behaviorally Diverse Simulation, ITSC'20

TRI Dataset Releases

STIP: Stanford-TRI Intent Prediction

<http://stip.stanford.edu/>

DDAD: Dense Depth for AD

<https://github.com/TRI-ML/DDAD>

Workshops co-organized by TRI

ICML: AI for AD (AIAD)

<https://sites.google.com/view/aiad2020>

ECCV: Perception for AD (PAD)

<https://sites.google.com/view/pad2020>

Thanks to many collaborators!

E. Adeli, S. Agarwal, R. Ambrus, T. Ando, N. Arechiga, D. Beker, A. Bhargava, E. Biyik, W. Burgard, A. Bühler, H. Cai, K. Cao, Z. Cao, MY. Castro, F. Codevilla, A. Cramariuc, J. DeCastro, B. Douillard, C. Fang, H. Girase, V. Guizilini, K. Hamzaoui, R. Hou, DA. Huang, B. Ivanovic, H. Kato, W. Kehl, M. Kliemann, KH. Lee, J. Li, B. Liu, AM. Lopez, J. Lynch, T. Ma, J. Malik, K. Mangalam, F. Manhardt, S. Maruyama, T. Matsuoka, N. Mehr, MA. Morariu, JC. Niebles, H. Nishimura, D. Nishiyama, Y. Ouyang, B. Pan, JM. Pan, M. Pavone, S. Pillai, A. Raventos, G. Ros, G. Rosman, D. Sadigh, E. Santana, M. Schwager, A. Sheno, S. Shiroshita, T. Tagawa, M. Wang, WZ. Wang, C. Wei, S. Zakharov